

PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

MAY 26, 2009

SPECIAL MEETING

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in special session with the following members present: Chairman Nathan Peters, Jr. Commissioners Billy E. Traylor, Carmen L. McLemore, Bill Williams, and Warren Yeager.

Others present were: County Attorney Timothy McFarland, Clerk Rebecca L. Norris, Deputy Clerk Kari Summers, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Building Inspector George Knight, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, E-911 Coordinator Ben Guthrie, Human Resources Director Denise Manuel, Assistant Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, Planner David Richardson, and Public Works Director Gerald Shearer.

Chairman Peters called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m., E.T.

INSURANCE

Chairman Peters discussed the insurance that the County currently has, stating until last year the County funded the employee portion of the insurance at 100%, and starting this year the employees had to start paying a small percentage. Commissioner Traylor thanked Chief Administrator Butler and Human Resource Director Manuel for their hard work on the insurance issue. He discussed the proposed insurance benefits, and that the Board has to determine what they can continue to pay, stating that the Board has provided a great plan to their employees over the years. Upon inquiry by Chairman Peters, Chief Administrator Butler discussed that if they maintain the current insurance, the premiums will increase by 3%, (about \$30,000.00). Commissioner Yeager discussed that the Board has to review the insurance and determine the amount they will pay for insurance coverage for each employee. Chief Administrator Butler discussed that they are currently waiting on the figures from the Property Appraiser before they can make any decisions regarding the insurance. Commissioner Williams discussed that the Board has two options regarding the insurance (1) define the amounts that the Board is willing to contribute, and (2) attack the lost run rates to determine how to reduce the amount, stating that the Board has never tracked this. Commissioner Traylor discussed that they have run into obstacles at the Health Department, and also the Hospital will not be open until April, 2010. Commissioner Williams discussed working out a plan with the Health Department to care for employees. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Traylor, Human Resource Director Manuel discussed one problem with the Health Department is not having enough physicians, and they also have a billing issue. After further discussion by members of the Board, Commissioner Williams discussed that he will continue to work with the Health Department and Sacred Heart Hospital. Human Resource Director Manuel discussed that the Wellness Committee has crafted an incentive program, stating that they have it structured into three tiers. Commissioner Williams discussed that the Health Care Committee needs to present their recommendations to the Board. Chairman Peters discussed that Property Appraiser Colbert reported he should have the figures (assessed values) to the Board by the first

week of June.

There being no further discussion, and upon motion by Commissioner Yeager, the meeting did then adjourn at 5:30 p.m., E.T.

JR.

**NATHAN PETERS,
CHAIRMAN**

ATTEST:

**REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK**